GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:517
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2009
FOREIGN FUNDS TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the religious institutions in the country are allowed to receive foreign contributions under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976;

(b) if so, the total funds received by such institutions during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether there is any ceiling on receipt of contribution to limit inflow of such foreign funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): Yes,Sir.Associations having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme can accept foreign contributions subject to registration or prior permission under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976. An association may exercise a choice to have itself registered in one or more of the five areas mentioned above.

(b): As per information available, the total amount of foreign contribution received by the associations, which have registered themselves as religious associations as one of their areas of activity is given below:

Year Amount of foreign contribution received (Rs. In crores)

2005-06 3075.77

2006-07 5558.72

2007-08 3511.07

(Provisional)

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.